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Pay to park, page 3

THE PANTHER

"Something inside so strong..."

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY



Why I can't be single, page 13

Kappa Kappa Psi wins BET's Spring Bling 'Get to Steppin'

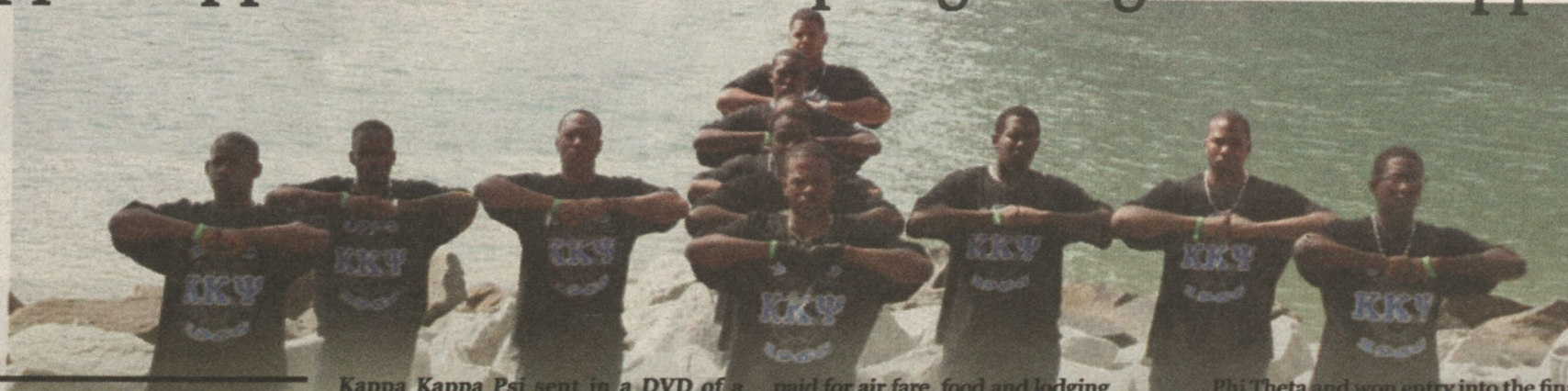


Photo courtesy: Cleopatra M. Williams

By Ashley Slayton
Panther Staff

The Delta Psi chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi competed in BET's 'Get to Steppin' Spring Bling competition at Haulover Beach in Miami, March 24-26. The members who participated were Corey Bright, Justin Douglas, Cedric Gutter, Daniel Lott, James Lott, Jonas McClain, Kristopher Mosley, Raven Nelson, Fabian Oliver, Quintus Smith and Yul Wilson.

After Abe Williams, an alumnus fraternity brother, discovered BET had taken an interest in the organization,

Kappa Kappa Psi sent in a DVD of a previous performance. A representative from BET reviewed the DVD and called the fraternity to invite them to perform in the Spring Bling 'Get to Steppin' competition. A dancing group from Prairie View, Twisted, was also invited to compete at Spring Bling. Once the decision to attend was made, transportation and funding proved to be a problem. Kappa Kappa Psi advisor Mark Gordon, who traveled with the fraternity to Miami, and James Durant referred the organization to Dr. Kelvin Kirby, associate vice president of Student Affairs. Kirby helped the organization receive funding from the university which

paid for air fare, food and lodging.

Four step groups competed in BET's Spring Bling 'Get to Steppin' and two step groups performed as exhibitions. Julissa and Nick Cannon served as hosts for the event and celebrities Ne-yo, TBD and Tre Songz formed the judging panel. Raven Nelson, a junior human performance major and social director of Kappa Kappa Psi said, "The cast and crew of Spring Fest made you feel like you were family." A 45 second preliminary round determined each organization's entry into the finals. During the preliminaries Kappa Kappa Psi competed against Central Arkansas University's chapter of Iota

Phi Theta and won entry into the finals by a unanimous vote. "It was a high intense performance," said Nelson, "The crowd was overwhelming. It was like a dream." In the finals, the fraternity competed against Lambda Tau Omega Sorority and won by two out of three votes. Justin Douglas, a senior music education major and president of Kappa Kappa Psi, said "We were a little nervous when we went up but we knew that we really had to go out there and put on a good show." The fraternity was awarded eight \$100 gift certificates and invited to step during BET's 106th and Park Wild Out Wednesday. The tape is set to air April 10-12.

Students to work with FBI for real world experience

By Ashley Traylor
Panther Correspondent

Throughout the next ten weeks, business majors at Prairie View A&M University will engage in an internship program with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

This program, the FBI Collegiate Marketing and Recruitment Program, gives students the chance to develop and execute their own marketing campaign while addressing the recruitment needs of the FBI.

During the semester, students will create a working marketing agency to research, develop, implement, and

evaluate a campaign. Students will also receive a \$2,500 budget to bring their campaign plans to life.

The goal of the campaign is to increase awareness and consideration for special agent and professional staff positions, as well as FBI internship programs. The students will effectively develop creative strategies to reach their peers with skills in several areas, including accounting/finance, engineering, computer science, information technology, physical sciences, math, intelligence experience, law experience, law enforcement, investigative experience, and fluency in a foreign language.

Critical languages for the special agent position include Arabic,

Chinese, Farsi, Japanese, Korean, Pashto, Russian, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

The FBI Collegiate Marketing and Recruitment Program is designed to bridge the gap between industry and education, and provides students with valuable, hands-on experience. The program is coordinated by EdVenture Partners, an education-marketing agency that designs unique industry-education partnerships at campuses throughout the United States. EdVenture Partners, in conjunction with the FBI, provides each student agency with the resources and guidance necessary to design and implement their marketing campaign.

On April 5, business majors

at Prairie View will join forces with the FBI to host a campus-wide information session from noon to 2 p.m. outside the MSC. This event, titled "FBI on the Hill," will allow students of the university to engage in face-to-face interaction with special agents of the FBI. Students will be granted the opportunity to gain any necessary information about various internship and career opportunities the FBI has to offer.

This event is designed to raise awareness and erase any misconceptions which individuals of the university may have of the FBI. For more details pertaining to "FBI on the Hill," contact Prairie View A&M University's College of Business at x4310.

In the news...

Senate panel approves sweeping immigration bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Judiciary Committee approved election-year immigration legislation Monday that clears the way for millions of undocumented workers to seek U.S. citizenship without having to first leave the country.

After days of street demonstrations that stretched from California to the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, the committee also voted to strip out proposed criminal penalties for residents found to be in this country illegally.

The panel's vote cleared the way for the full Senate to begin debate Tuesday on the emotional immigration issue.

"All Americans wanted fairness and they got it this evening," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat who played a pivotal role in drafting the legislation, approved 12-6.

Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., voted for the bill but signaled that some of the provisions could well be changed by the full Senate.

In general, the bill is designed to strengthen border patrol, create new opportunities for so-called guest workers and determine the legal future of the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the United States illegally.

At several critical points, committee Democrats were united while Republicans splintered. In general, GOP Sens. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina, Sam Brownback of Kansas and Mike DeWine of Ohio, who is seeking re-election this fall, sided with Democrats.

That gave Democrats a majority that allowed them to shape the bill to their liking.

Iraqi gunmen kill math teacher in front of her husband, three sons, police say

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Unidentified gunmen broke into the home of a math teacher in southern Baghdad and killed her in front of her husband and three sons, police said.

The motive of the killing was not immediately known, police Lt. Mohammed al-Baghdadi said.

Amina Ibrahim, who taught math at an elementary school, lived in Dora, one of Baghdad's most dangerous neighborhoods.

Archdiocese of New Orleans shuts down historic black church

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Archdiocese of New Orleans announced Monday that one of the nation's oldest black Catholic churches would be closed for the foreseeable future.

Archbishop Alfred Hughes, during a news conference, said he had no choice but to close St. Augustine Church after protesters disrupted Mass there on Sunday.

St. Augustine was among a group of parishes the archdiocese slated for closure as it deals with heavy losses following Hurricane Katrina. The archdiocese had originally planned to only close the parish, merging it with nearby St. Peter Claver. The plan was to allow Sunday Mass, some weddings and funerals at the historic church, but the Rev. Jerome LeDoux would no longer be the pastor.

However protesters have been occupying the rectory for about a week and during Sunday Mass showed up with signs protesting the planned closure.

Hughes said the protesters desecrated the church and therefore it must be closed.

"This is a very painful, painful decision to have to make and to implement. I don't take any joy in this," Hughes said.

Granddaughter of Cesar Chavez to run for California Assembly

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A granddaughter of Cesar Chavez said Monday she is running for a seat in the California Assembly, becoming the first member of the late United Farm Workers leader's family to seek public office.

Christine Chavez, who has taken leave from her post as the union's political director, planned to formally announce her candidacy Tuesday.

"When I approached the subject I mainly told the matriarch of our family, my grandmother Helen Chavez. She was at first shocked but of course she's very excited. You know, we've always been sort of advocates on the other side of the political spectrum," Chavez said.

The 45th District covers an area east, north and northwest of downtown. Six candidates have filed to run for the seat in the June 6 election, according to the secretary of state's office.

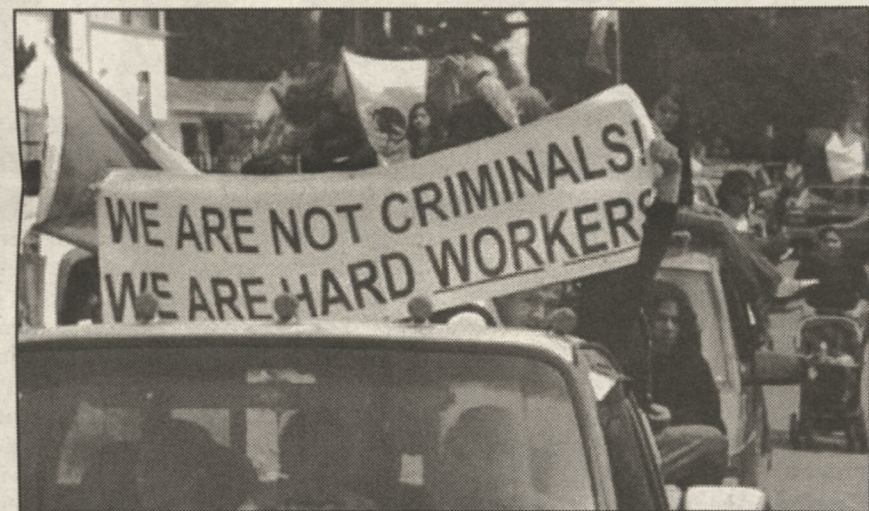
STATE & NATION

EDITED BY NNEKA MEKA NNEKA@PVAMU.EDU

Student immigration protests continue



Viva Mexico: As part of an organized protest of the immigration reform bill, Dallas (top) and Los Angeles (bottom) high school students walked out of class on Monday, March 27.



Associated Press

(AP) Thousands of students in California and Texas ditched classes Tuesday for the second day in a row, ignoring campus lockdowns to protest U.S. immigration legislation they see as an attack on Hispanic rights.

During the morning, 5,395 students had left schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District, even though middle and high schools had barred youngsters from leaving campus, district spokeswoman Monica Carazo said.

In Texas, hundreds of students left classes. In Dallas, some gathered to shout and wave signs at City Hall. One student's hand was severed when a sport utility vehicle she was riding in crashed on the way to a rally.

The rallies come as the U.S. Senate considers immigration reform proposals, including legislation approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday that would clear the way for 11 million illegal aliens to seek U.S. citizenship.

Lawmakers are also considering legislation that would make it a felony to be in the U.S. illegally, impose new pen-

alties on employers who hire illegals and build more fences along the U.S.-Mexican border.

California authorities had taken a watch-and-wait attitude to rallies on Monday but had a harsher stance Tuesday.

In the city of Carson, California, authorities with batons and helmets temporarily ringed dozens of youngsters in front of a high school before allowing them to march.

In the San Pedro area of Los Angeles, at least 50 students were cited for truancy and taken back to schools. A 14-year-old boy was arrested for investigation of disturbing the peace before being released to his parents, Sgt. Mark Jauregui said.

Students at several Las Vegas high schools also walked out.

On Monday, some 36,000 students from 25 Los Angeles County school districts walked out of class, officials said, with more than 1,000 protesting outside Los Angeles City Hall for much of the day.

The walkouts followed a weekend of enormous rallies, including one Saturday that drew as many as 500,000 demonstrators in Los Angeles.

CAMPUS

EDITED BY ALANNA JONES ALANNAJONES@PVAMU.EDU

Pay to park

New metered parking slots across campus



By Alanna Jones
News/ Managing Editor

The parking department at PVAMU is at expanding its parking services in high traffic areas across campus for students, faculty and staff by installing metered parking.

Currently, the parking system consists of parking tags that designate each driver and their vehicle to a certain parking lot so there will not be an overflow in a given parking area. Tressey Wilson, director of auxiliary services, explained the need and advantages for metered parking across campus.

"Students will now be able to park in any parking lot for a short period of time, if needed, without receiving a ticket as long as they follow the rules and regulations."

The idea for metered parking was first conceived by the parking department to keep the areas of high traffic flowing

throughout the day.

"There are 50 meters strategically placed across campus in areas such as across from S.R. Collins, Hobart, and Harrington Science," said Wilson.

Although commuters will be able to pay for parking time, this will not omit the use of parking tags.

"You can park for up to an hour for 75 cents, but if you go over your time, there will be a \$25 parking ticket placed on your vehicle," said Wilson,



Photo by Evan White

Money please: Metered parking will soon be the new trend on campus.

who added, "parking decals are still needed, but if parked in a metered parking slot, that does not prevent parking fines if rules are not followed."

Curbs are being painted and parking meters are currently being made ready for use in the near future.

"We are waiting for the parking lot at Blackshear Field to be completed before we begin using the new parking slots," said Wilson.

Wilson continues to say that the expansion of metered is possible, but it all depends on the revenue of the first 50 slots.

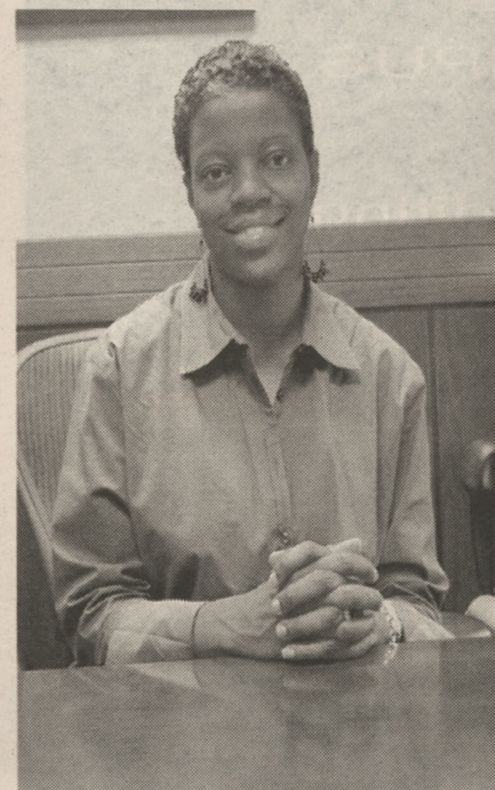


Photo by Evan White

Tressey Wilson, director of Auxiliary Services

Probate spring 2006: a great success

By Jamaur Barnes
Panther Staff

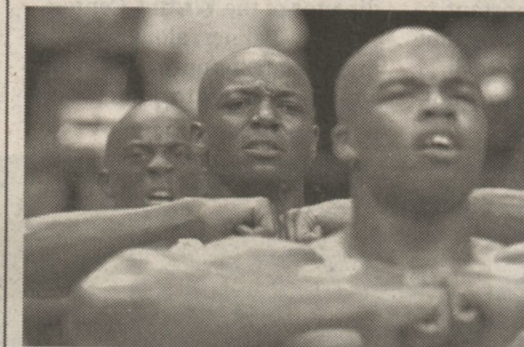


Photo by Evan White

Prairie View A&M University kicked off Spring Fest by hosting its New Membership Showcase in the William "Billy" J. Nicks Field House on Monday, March 27.

The New Membership Showcase, or "Probate," is an opportunity for established organizations to present and unveil their new initiates, or "Neos" to the students and faculty. The Spring 2006 showcase was one of surprising and exciting proportions. Representing the C.S.O. organizations were Karnation Kourt, Incorporated, Sigma Alpha Iota, International Music Fraternity for Women, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service Sorority, Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity Incorporated, Gamma Phi Delta Christian Fraternity, and Epsilon Gamma Iota. Representing the Devine Nine and National Pan-Hellenic Council was Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

"I feel that we repre-

sented well and that the student body as well as our sorority expects and will see great things from the new members," said senior and Gamma Sigma Sigma Neo, Franchelle Craft. Craft said she chose the sorority because of its extreme dedication to the community and the fact that they love helping others and establishing sisterhood through service.

"I expect to gain an international sisterhood with women who share the same love for music as myself," said sophomore and Neo of Sigma Alpha Iota, Erica Gordon.

Probate was not only a celebration for Neos, but for old members as well. "All organizations did well, and I hope that they continue to represent their organizations well. It was such a joy to come out and

celebrate with the prophytes of our organization. I am especially proud of my sorority, all of their hard work really paid off," said senior Mara Arceneaux and Prophyte of Gamma Sigma Sigma. Senior Yanique Nelson and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was very proud to see her new "bruhs." "I was especially excited for the brothers of Omega Psi Phi, all of their hard work, blood, sweat, and tears really paid off."

Indeed probate was a time of anticipation and excitement; the showcase of new members surely gives the campus something to look forward to.



Photos by Evan White

THE
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"Peer Review Day on Campus" to help students improve writing skills

By Alanna Jones
News/Managing Editor

The Writing Center in the Department of Languages and Communications and several honors societies will be holding the first "Peer Review Day on Campus" on Monday, April 3, in Hilliard Hall and The Panther Room in University College.

Monday through Friday on the first floor of Hilliard Hall, students work hard to help other students better learn the processes of writing, editing, or simply having their schoolwork looked over with a second eye.

Peer review is important in the writing process because it allows students to improve writing skills. Lettie Raab, executive director of University College, says that it's important to begin developing writing skills now, not only for course work, but the workforce as well.

"We are bright people, but sometimes have trouble

putting ideas down and making those ideas coherent to the reader. It is also important to know how to formulate a resume as well as papers," says Raab.

When entering college as a PV freshman, many students are enrolled in developmental courses, but Raab states that out of all sections of the THEA (Texas Higher Education Assessment) exam, writing has the fewest issues.

"Just because a student can pass a test does not mean they do not need more practice. The more you write the better you get."

"The Writing Center and the fellow sponsors of 'Peer Review Day on Campus'

would like to help foster more opportunities for review and

writing," says Dr. Palmer, assistant professor of English and director of the Writing Center.

Palmer, along with the many contributors of this event, wants students to understand

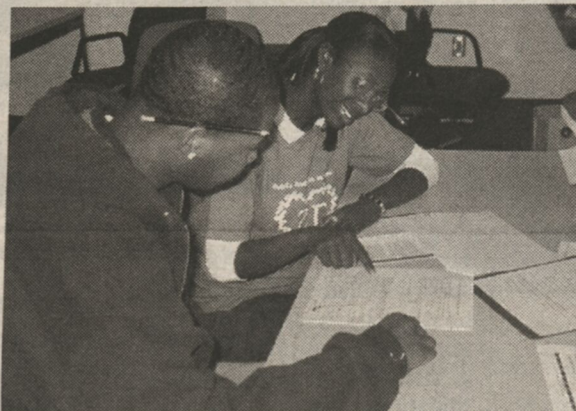


Photo by LeWebster Lacy
Practice is the key. Writing Center student advisor assists a student to improve his paper.

disciplines.

"Writing skills are essential to achievement in academics, the workplace, and in our personal lives. Writing develops higher-order thinking skills and, therefore, helps students of all majors learn and master content in all subject areas. This is why the Writing Center encourages writing in all disciplines," says Palmer.

Once the success of "Peer Review Day on Campus" is calculated, there are many things in the works to encourage writing across campus.

"Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) is based on the idea that writing is a tool that can help students synthesize, analyze, and ap-

ply course content. Writing In the Disciplines (WID) program would be a welcome addition to our curriculum. WID is based on the idea that every discipline has its own conventions and that these must be taught so that students can participate in academic discourse," says Palmer.

Besides the Writing Center, Palmer explains that there are many outlets on campus to get writing assistance outside of peer review day.

"We encourage students to take advantage of all resources on campus including faculty office hours, the Center for Academic Support in the J.B. Coleman Library, the writing lab in the College of Business, and Delco."

Raab says that if it becomes necessary for more writing assistance closer to freshman housing, there may be a writing lab placed in University College.

The Writing Center

Monday, April 3rd, 10:00 - 8:00

PEER REVIEW DAY ON CAMPUS

Bring Your Writing!
Brainstorming • Proofreading • Editing
Organizing • Outlining



Two Locations:

The Writing Center (Hilliard 118)
Panther Room (University College)

Sponsored by: The Writing Center, University College, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Dept. of Languages & Communications, Sigma Tau Delta

Ebony provides a day of pampering

By Anterria Brown
Panther Staff

On Tuesday, March 28, Prairie View A&M University students were treated to a day of indulgence and relaxation at the Escape Ebony Spa Care and Pampering Tour. The event was held from 12-4 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center ballroom on March 28. Students who attended the event received free gift bags, free sample hair and skin products, and a chance to win

dents were told what products worked best for their hair type, and given product samples. Full size products were also available for students to purchase at discount prices.

There was also a cosmetic where students were given glamorous makeovers with Fashion Fair products. Students were advised of what products, colors, textures and tones worked best for their skin. "The makeover was great, the make up artists gave



Photo by LeWebster Lacy

All about the hair: Student displays one of the many organic products that were given away and sold at the Ebony event.

beauty gift baskets.

The tour featured a manicure booth where students could receive free manicures. Professional manicurists provided students with the service and gave tips for healthy nail care.

"My favorite booth at the event was the manicure booth, it was nice to receive a free manicure and the manicurists were very friendly," said freshman Kelly Williams.

The tour also featured a hair and scalp analysis. The booth was hosted by Organic Root Stimulator. Students were given a free scalp analysis with a microscope, and advised about their scalp follicles. After the analysis stu-

advice about the products they were using and advised you on how to properly apply them to your face. They left everyone looking beautiful," said junior Beveier Sanders.

The final booth at the event was the massage booth. Students were given massages while listening to the sounds of soothing jazz music. The soothing massages lasted five minutes, and left students feeling relaxed.

"I really enjoyed the event, it was good because it featured products that were geared toward ethnic people and that's not something you always see. I would really like to see more events of this nature on campus," said senior Ebony Brown.

By Ashley Slayton
Panther Staff

In 1979 Jimmy Carter signed into law the U.S. Small Business Administration. The SBA implemented the Small Business Development Center Program to provide assistance and enhance economic development for small businesses.

Located in the Hobart Taylor building in room 1B117, the SBDC is open Monday through Friday from eight to five. Director Dan Rhodes, whose position involves networking and community involvement, says he's passionate about helping people go into business. Rhodes helps small businesses and cities with under developed economies understand their dynamics, strengths and weaknesses.

The SBDC holds a luncheon every third Wednesday of the month in Hempstead, Texas

where these issues are discussed. Price of attendance is ten dollars. The SBDC helps people who are in business or plan to go into business with business plans, financials, marketing, competition and research.

"The SBDC's main goal is to help the communities bring capital into their community for businesses and increase the number of jobs in their community," says Rhodes.

When asked how students could benefit from working with the SBDC Rhodes remarked that "it's extremely important that everyone understands how to do business regardless of your major. We serve everybody."

Gary Henton II, a freshman business major agreed with Rhodes. "Working with the SBDC gave me a better understanding of how to interact with others when conducting business. Now I know the amount



Photo provided Panther Archives

Dan Rhodes. Director of the Small Business development Center program located on the campus of PVAMU.

of work it takes to actually start and maintain a successful business." SBDC offices receive funding from Congress and individual schools. There are 1100 centers around the country.

"Violence in Reconstruction Texas"

By Jamyen Robinson
Panther Staff

The Phi Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta hosted its first annual lecture on March 22.

The lecture was titled "Violence in Reconstruction Texas," by Dr. James M. Smallwood of Oklahoma State University.

Smallwood is a professor Emeritus of History at Oklahoma State University. In addition to teaching at Oklahoma, he has taught at different universities from Texas A&M at Commerce to the University of Kyoto, Japan. Smallwood is also the author of 16 books. His recent book, *The Indian Texans* won the Texas Library Association's 2005 Texas Reference Source Award.

Smallwood's lecture deals with the history of Texas after the civil war. During that time, the Ku Klux Klan was formulated, resulting in

violent acts toward the freed slaves, and the creation of a "backward economic social reputation in the country." The acts that were made caused an economic growth stunt in the south, until the New Deal took place and turned the progression around.

"It is important for students to know about what the history of the South because it is central and deals with the majority of the black community history," says Smallwood. Furthermore he stated, "Knowledge is good any time you find it."



Photo by Evan White

Know your Texas history: Dr. James M. Smallwood teaches students about Texas history after the Civil War.

City council disusses upcoming events in the city of Prairie View

By Marquita Smith
Panther Staff

The Prairie View City Council met Tuesday, March 28, at the city's community center. Council member Joe D. Harrison presided, due to Mayor Frank Jackson's absence.

Residents discussed issues concerning Prairie View, such as candidates interested in running for council positions and the events for April. Each member who was interested in running for office made a short speech about what they could offer if elected. Kim Washington-Garrett, a council member

who is stepping down, took the time to wish everyone running for council positions good luck. Committee members also took the time to have a moment of silence for Prairie View locals who had recently passed away.

Council member Marrie Herndon discussed how

she had the honor to present Lula B. White with the Lifetime Achievement Award. White was recognized for spending her time educating and making sure that students got their voting rights. Herndon will also be recognized next week as a distinguished politician. The mayor would like to

encourage everyone to listen to his radio program between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Thursdays on KPVM. Those interested in being informed about the city of Prairie View, are invited to attend the meetings that are held every other Tuesday at the community center starting at 6 p.m.

Kabbalah: faith on a red string

By Marquita Smith
Panther Staff

There are many interesting religions. The one that happens to be popular now that people are beginning to convert to is Kabbalah. Kabbalah is Hebrew for "that which is received" and refers to a secret oral tradition of teaching which extends from teacher to pupil. The word Kabbalah was first applied to secret mystical teachings in the eleventh century by Iba Gab-riol, a Spanish philosopher, and has since become applied to all Jewish mystical practice. The Kabbalist seeks two things: the first is a union with God while maintaining a social, family, and communal life within the frame-work of traditional Judaism. In legend God taught the Kabbalah to some angels, who later after the fall taught it to Adam. The Kabbalah was to help humankind to return to God. It was then passed to Noah, Abraham and Moses.

The origin of the Kabbalah centers around a book titled *Sefer Yetzirah* "Book of Creation." The origin dating of the book is unknown but it is known to have been used in the tenth century and may have been written as early as the third century. The book tells that God created the world by the means of thirty two secret paths of knowledge

and the twenty two letters in the Hebrew alphabet.

Many ideas and principles discovered in Kabbalah are also found in Gnosticism. They both

were in the Eastern Mediter-ranean near the time of Christ. Kabbalah and Gnosticism are both important to knowledge called the gnosis or the knowl-

edge of God. In Gnosticism sin is not considered to be wrong but ignorance which separates hu-mankind from God. The knowl-edge of the gnosis unites human-

kind to God--to know God is to be God. Those sharing this gnosis are the chosen ones. They are the enlightened ones who share the knowledge of God, although they may not lead perfect lives.

The Kabbalists share simi-lar goals as did the Gnostics: each group set out to answer the religious paradoxical questions of life, such as why does the world possess both good and evil char-acteristics when it was created by a God who is all good? Why is the world finite when it was cre-ated by an infinite God? Similar questions which are concerning the world can also be asked of humankind. Of all the questions concerning God's relationship with the world and humankind, there seems to be one main ques-tion: God, by his very nature of being infinite, all good and know-ing, seems unknowable then, how is it possible for humankind to know him?

The Kabbalah seems to serve to answer this question in two ways: the first is in the expla-nation that every idea contains its own contradiction, and God who is the sum of all ideas contains all contradictions. Therefore God is good and evil, just and unjust, merciful and cruel, limitless and limited, unknowable and know-able. All things, which contain their contradictions or opposites, unite to form a greater whole which is God.



Just Like a Prayer: Madonna displays The Red String which serves as a soul-sealer and protective barrier against evil influences.

Famous Kabbahlists

Britney Spears
Madonna
Demi Moore
Ashton Kutcher
Courtney Love
Sharon Osbourne
Guy Ritchie
Winona Ryder
Elizabeth Taylor
Marla Maples
Rosie O'Donnell
Victoria (Poch Spice)
and David Beckham
Sir Isaac Newton
Plato
Pythagoras

ATTEND Spring Concert

of the
University Symphonic Band
Dr. Lucius R. Wyatt, Director

**Thursday, April 6th
7:00 p.m.**

The Recital Hall
Hobart Taylor Building
Free Admission

VIEWPOINTS

EDITED BY NNEKA MEKA NMEKA@PAMU.EDU

Who gives a @#\$\$% about profanity?

Poll says 75% of women and 60% of men don't like swearwords

Associated Press

This is a story about words we can't print in this story.

You probably hear these words often, and more than ever before. But even though we can't print them, we can certainly ask: Are we living in an Age of Profanity?

Nearly three-quarters of Americans questioned last week -- 74 percent -- said they encounter profanity in public frequently or occasionally, according to an Associated Press-Ipsos poll. Two-thirds said they think people swear more than they did 20 years ago. And as for, well, the gold standard of foul words, a healthy 64 percent said they use the F-word -- ranging from several times a day (8 percent) to a few times a year (15 percent).

Just ask Joe Cormack. Like any bartender, Cormack, of Fort Dodge, Iowa, hears a lot of talk. He's not really offended by bad language -- heck, he uses it himself every day. But sometimes, a customer will unleash the F-word so many times, Cormack just has to jump in.

"Do you have any idea how many times you've just said that?" he reports saying from time to time. "I mean, if I take that out of your vocabulary, you've got nothin'!"

And it's not just at the bar. Or on TV. (Or on the Senate floor, for that matter, where Vice President Dick Cheney used the F-word in a heated argument two years ago.)

At the community college where Cormack studies journalism, students will occasionally inject foul language into classroom discussions.

Irene Kramer, a grandmother in Scranton, Pennsylvania, gets her ears singed when passing by the high school near her home.

"What we hear, it's gross," says Kramer, 67. "I tell them, 'I have a dictionary and a Roget's Thesaurus, and I don't see any of those words in there!' I don't understand why these parents allow it."

For Kramer, a major culprit is television. "Do I have to be insulted right there in my own home?" she asks. "I'm not going to pay \$54 a month for cable and listen to that garbage." And yet she feels it's not a lost cause. "If people say 'Look, I don't want you talking that way,' if they demand it, it's going to have to change."

In that battle, Kramer has a willing comrade: Judith Martin, who writes the syndicated *Miss Manners* column.

"Is it inevitable?" Martin asked in a recent interview. "Well, if it were inevitable I wouldn't be doing my job." The problem, she says, is that people who are offended aren't speaking up about it.

"Everybody is pretending they aren't shocked," Martin says, "and gradually people WON'T be shocked. And then those who want to be offensive will find another way."

Perhaps not surprisingly, profanity seems to divide people by age and by gender.

Younger people admit to using bad language more often

than older people; they also encounter it more and are less bothered by it. The AP-Ipsos poll suggested that 62 percent of 18 to 34-year-olds acknowledged swearing in conversation at least a few times a week, compared to 39 percent of those 35 and older.

More women than men said they encounter people swearing more now than 20 years ago -- 75 percent, compared to 60 percent. Also, more women said they were bothered by profanity -- 74 percent at least some of the time -- than men (60 percent.) And more men admitted to swearing: 54 percent at least a few times a week, compared to 39 percent of women.

Wondering specifically about the F-word? Thirty-two percent of men said they used it at least a few times a week, compared to 23 percent of women.

"That word doesn't even mean what it means anymore," says Larry Riley of Warren, Michigan. "It has just become part of the culture." Riley admits to using the F-word a few times a week. And his wife? "She never swears."

A striking common note among those interviewed, swearers or not: They don't like it when people swear for no good reason.

Darla Ramirez, for example, says she hates hearing the F-word "when people are just having a plain old conversation." The 40-year-old housewife from Arlington, Texas, will hear "people talking about their F-ing car, or their F-ing job. I'll hear it walking down the street, or at the shopping mall, or at Wal-Mart."



Wash your mouth with soap: Bartender Joe Cormack says he sometimes calls customers on the number of times they use profanity.

"What they do in their own home is their business, but when I'm out I don't need to hear people talking trashy," Ramirez says. She admits to swearing about once a month -- but not the F-word.

And Donnell Neal of Madison Lake, Minnesota, notes how she'll hear the F-word used as a mere form of emphasis, as in: "That person scared the f--- out of me!" Neal, 26, who works with disabled adults, says she swears only in moments of extreme frustration, "like if someone cuts me off when I'm driving, or if I'm carrying something and someone shuts the door in my face." Even then, she says, she'll likely use "milder cuss words" -- and never at work.

The AP poll questioned 1,001 adults on March 20-22,

with a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

For those who might find the results depressing, there's possibly a silver lining: Many of those who swear think it's wrong nonetheless.

Like Steven Price, a security guard in Tonawanda, New York, who admits to using swear words -- including the F-word, several times a day -- with colleagues or buddies, "like any old word."

Price, 31, still gets mad at himself for doing it, worries about the impact of profanity (especially from TV) on his children, and regrets the way things have evolved since he was a kid.

"As I get older, the more things change," says Price. "And I kind of wish they had stayed the same."

Student suspects step-off conspiracy

I want to start by saying that I would like to remain anonymous for various reasons. It has been a big mystery about how C Phi C, a freshman step team, continues to win the dorm step off competition every year. I believe it is a conspiracy and it is time they are stopped. If you think about it, C Phi C lives throughout the whole UC because they do not represent one single building. They represent the freshmen band members, which means you might find several members from each one of UC's male buildings. Most of C Phi C's members, whose names I will keep anonymous, describe that they were able to view their building's step team practices because most of UCs step team practices were held inside their buildings, giving all residents full access to practice viewing privileges. If you noticed some of building 36 and 38 also performed C Phi Cs steps. Well like, I said earlier, several of C Phi C members are residents of those buildings. It is time for C Phi C to be stopped. They have been cheating their way through the dorm step off all these years and I am surprised no one has caught on to their fraud by now. It is time they be exposed.

HBCUs should consider refocusing

By Eric Brown
Black College Wire

I first heard that Morris Brown College was in trouble a few years ago by e-mail. I was an officer of the Black Student Alliance at the University of Texas at Austin. The news shocked me. I instantly felt compelled to seek out solutions, but soon lapsed into complacency due to the magnitude of the problem and the limited scope of our student organizations.

Since then, the nation has been struck by the greatest natural catastrophe of our time. Hurricane Katrina destroyed millions of dreams, and once again dispersed one of America's most cohesive African American economic communities. Black shop owners, artisans, musicians, entrepreneurs, land owners and educators face troubles reminiscent of the post-Civil War period, such as scattered families, devastated landscapes and economic depletion. Historically black Dillard and Xavier universities suffered enrollment losses, being located in a disaster area. Yet there is still hope for New Orleans.

So I am reminded to keep seeking solutions.

If Morris Brown, Dillard, Xavier and other troubled HBCUs are to reclaim greatness, they must begin to look carefully at the economics of their existence. In the past, blacks had an overwhelming demand for basic education while the law seriously limited the supply. Since then, the U.S. economy has evolved from agricultural to informational. But more important, the law no longer restricts who can educate black students. Furthermore, many consider

today's basic education a commodity.

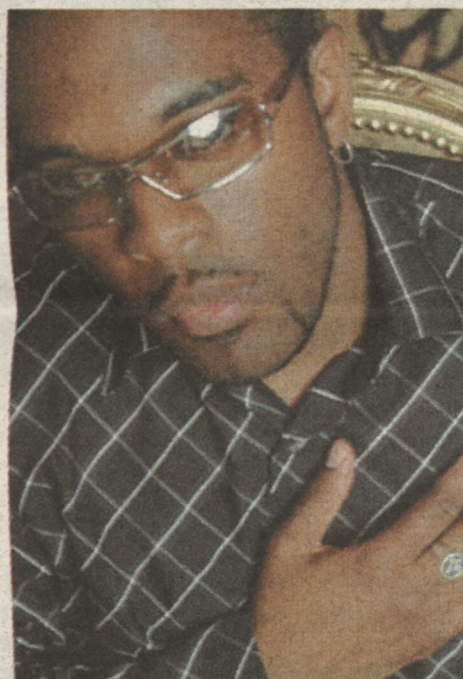
As a student at the University of Texas, I learned that a market approach to education is a sound economic model. Historical giants such as Booker T. Washington and businessman A.G. Gaston were vastly aware of this. Therefore, it is time again to "cast down our buckets." New strategies must be implemented. An effective approach cannot exclude the importance of African American institutions or the economic impact of education as a product as well as a process.

The goal of HBCUs should be to restructure as research institutions. Many of the top research colleges and universities demonstrate a market approach to education. They first identify their core competencies and create research programs around them. They then focus their resources on the recruitment and retention of scholars who promote the success of those programs. And finally, they provide their product to industry on the open market - generally as licensed intellectual property providing the school with residual income that funds more research.

A restructuring plan for Morris Brown might include growing and developing doctorate programs in humanities, communications and business. Humanities would fo-

cus on documenting the African American experience through history, economics, philosophy, etc. A communications department would study the impact of hip-hop and the Internet through the performing arts, broadcast technologies, organizational behavior, etc. Programs in business would bring it all together by emphasizing market economics and globalization ethics.

There is a future for the African American university. It will require forward thinking and planning such as the proposal offered by Tom Joyner's company Reach Media, Inc. to purchase Morris Brown College. These institutions will rise from the ashes like a phoenix once they commit to the business of education.



Eric Brown: Currently completing his undergraduate requirements at the University of Texas at Austin.

Let us cater to you

A notice from the editor



Nneka Meka
Editor in Chief

The Panther seeks to satisfy the needs of the student body, if there is an issue on campus or in the community that you feel is imperative for us to report, feel free to drop us a line. Furthermore, regardless of your major, staff positions are open to anyone with desire and dedication to the art of writing (meetings are Mondays at 6 p.m. in the MSC rm. 219).

If newswriting is not your niche, but you really have something to say write me a letter and your concerns will be placed on the Viewpoints pages.

Remember The Panther is the award winning voice of students on The Hill. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD, believe me people listen.

Contact us at:
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or
www.pvpanther.com

SPORTS

EDITED BY RASHAD MORGAN, RMORGAN@PVAMU.EDU

Cooper gets ready to host basketball camp



By Rashad Morgan
Sports Editor

"Camp Cooper" is official. The first of many camps to be hosted by Prairie View A&M University's head basketball coach Cynthia Cooper-Dyke will be held on June 26-30.

The camp, which is aimed at girls ranging from grades 5-11, will enable them to hone their basketball skills in an entertaining atmosphere. The camp will be run by two-time WNBA MVP, Cynthia Cooper and her staff.

Cooper-Dyke possesses the dedication and celebrity needed to have a huge influence on the younger girls, not to mention the accolades to back it up.

"We plan to have a great time and the camp will give us a chance to introduce the university and its facilities to younger athletes," said Cooper-Dyke. "I'm looking forward to instilling the passion for the game of basketball into the younger athletes."

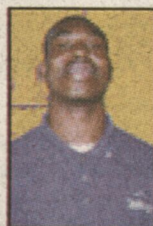
Cooper, who started playing basketball at the age of 16, helped push her high school team to win the championship during her senior year. During that year she was also named MVP.

Camp Cooper will be highlighted with day and overnight operations, which allows the athletes to participate no matter their schedule. The day camp will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will end at 2:30 p.m., while the overnight camp will also start at 8:30 a.m. but ends at 5:30 p.m. The tuition, which will pay for the instructions, lunch, and a camp T-shirt is \$150 for the day camp and only \$220 for the overnight camp. Prizes will also be given out.

A camp brochure is available online at campcooper@pvamu.edu or you can contact the women's basketball office at 936-857-2115. You can also download a brochure at sports.pvamu.edu.

PURPLE & GOLD POLL

Who is going to win the NCAA tournament?



UCLA, because they have been there and have the experience and discipline.
-Jason Scott
Junior
Agriculture



Whoever puts in the most hard work, but LSU has a good chance.
-Laura Strait
Junior
Special Education



LSU, because #12 is a bad mother---!
-Johnathan King
Sophomore
Psychology



George Mason, because they look real good right now, and my homeboy plays for them.
-Derrick Williams
Sophomore
Criminal Justice

Evan White



Photo by Jermaine Jackson

True champs: The residents of building 39 pose with their LCM, Terri Moss, after their victory.

UCBA Midnight Madness takes center stage

By Shandon Neal
Panther Correspondent

While many may feel basketball is a recreational sport, some feel it is a way of life. University College, the freshman home away from home, recently held its annual UCBA tourney.

This year the tournament was done with a twist. Instead of the usual several weeks done in the past, the tournament was done in a weekend event.

The basketball action started with six female teams and six male teams going head to head in double elimination games, non-stop. The LCMs and CAS worked diligently to provide a wholesome tournament this past Friday and Saturday. Tournament action began on Friday night at 9 p.m. in the New Gym and continued until the first round of games was over at 2 a.m.

The action recessed and reconvened on Saturday afternoon with the second round and semifinals one after another lasting until 3 a.m. on Sunday.

In the end, the championships were given to the ladies of building 39, coached by Chris Mitchell and the men of building 36, coached by Marshall Wooten.

UC was especially grateful to the Department of Recreational Sporting for the privilege of allowing them to host the event.

"We look forward to building greater tournament action next school year," said Shandon Neal, director of student life for University College. "Every year we try to build on our successes and we think that this particular sport is an opportunity for our students to build lasting friendships and camaraderie."

UC looks to continue providing activities for the freshmen in sporting with the upcoming second annual UC Relays in April and the introduction of the UC Volleyball to take place during the Spring Bling in April.

Recognizing how important the freshman year is, UC has dedicated itself to such co-curricular programming and activities to create a balance for the ideal Prairie View man/woman.

Be on the lookout for more exciting programs coming from University College's student and residential life division soon.



Photo by Jermaine Jackson

Picture Perfect: Marshall Wooten poses with his team after a championship victory.



Prairie View and The Harris County Sports Authority will host NCAA bowling championship

By Andrew Roberts
Panther Correspondent

The Prairie View A&M University Department of Athletics in conjunction with the Harris County Houston Sports Authority is scheduled to host the 2006 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship April 13-15 in Houston, Texas. One of the events that will be highlighted during the championship is the NCAA Youth Education through Sports (YES) Clinic on Saturday, April 15. Boys and girls between the ages 10-18 will get the opportunity to meet and work with collegiate coaches and student-athletes to learn bowling skills, life skills and conditioning tips at no cost to participants.

"We're excited about the opportunity to assist the NCAA and the Harris County Houston Sports Authority in hosting the 2006 NCAA Bowling Championships and YES Clinic," said PVAMU Assistant Athletic Director for Women Sports Alicia Pete. "The clinic will provide a wonderful chance for aspiring bowlers to learn from some of the best collegiate players and coaches from around the nation."

The championship and clinic will take place at Emerald Bowl located at 9307 Boone Road in Houston, Texas. All participants will receive a complimentary lunch and free admission to the championship round immediately following the clinic. All prospective participants must pre-register due to a limited amount of space. Selections will be made on a first-come-first-serve basis with each participant receiving written confirmation.

Jackson State's Trey Johnson to enter NBA draft

By Ja'Nekia Barton
Black College Wire

With the support of fans, family, coaches and teammates, Trey Johnson, a junior at Jackson State University and the Tigers' leading scorer, announced he will declare for the 2006 NBA draft.

"I've been thinking about entering the draft since about three-fourth(s) through the season," Johnson said at a March 24 news conference. "The coaching staff and my family thought it was the right decision."

The draft is scheduled June 28 at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Johnson's mother, Phyllis Johnson, said, "He has promised me that no matter what happens, he would go back to get his degree. He has not signed with an agent. We just felt it was the right decision to test the waters." Clinton Johnson Jr. said he thought his son was better at baseball.

Under NCAA rules, stu-

dent athletes must have completed at least 60 percent of their work toward a degree to be eligible to compete as juniors. They may declare for the draft once in their careers without jeopardizing their amateur status, and can

all Division I NCAA players. At Jackson State, Johnson led the Tigers, averaging 23 points per game.

The 6-foot-5 guard said he was confident about his chances after conversations with many people, including some in the NBA.

Although he played a combination guard in college, he said he thought he would enter the draft as a point guard because of his size and shooting ability.

The Tigers' head coach, Tevester Anderson, said, "I'm happy for him to be pursuing his dream. He has the opportunity to have his life dream come true."

Johnson's former teammates attended the news conference to show their support. "I feel like he made the right decision. He has everything it takes to make it. I support him 100 percent," point guard Dakarai Wallace said.

Julius Young, Tiger forward and former teammate at Jackson's Murrah High School, said, "I feel great about the decision. He is my childhood friend. I wish him the best."



Photo courtesy of Blue and White Flash

Front Runner: Johnson led Jackson State with 23ppg this season.

return to collegiate sports if they are not drafted.

Johnson was the second leading scorer in the Southwestern Athletic Conference and ranked eighth in scoring among



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Panthers trump Steers

Panther News Service

The Prairie View A&M Lady Panther softball team stepped into the winner's column with a dominating offensive performance in a doubleheader sweep over Texas College on Thursday evening.

In game one, the Lady Panthers used a nine-run fourth inning to capture a 14-4 victory over the Lady Steers.

Prairie View jumped out to 3-0 lead after the first inning with RBIs from freshman catcher Brenda Sneed and junior first baseman Jannell Meyers.

In the bottom of the second, sophomore third baseman Emily Holcombe added to the Lady Panthers' lead with an RBI single and junior second baseman Sheena Robertson scored on a fielding error to up the score to 5-0.

Texas College reduced PVAMU's deficit to 5-1 in the top of the third but the Lady Panthers took control of the contest with a nine-run fourth inning that featured three errors by the Lady Steer defense. The Lady Steers recorded three runs in the top of the fifth to cut Prairie View's deficit to 14-4. However, it was too little too late as the game was called due

to the eight-run rule after five innings.

Junior pitcher Christy Uribe (1-8) earned the win while Jenna Castaneda dropped to 1-7 on the season. Sophomore shortstop Amberly Fuller, Meyers and Sneed added two RBIs apiece for Prairie View.

Fresh off their first win of the season, the Lady Panthers continued a dominating display of offensive prowess with a 16-1 victory in only five innings of play.

Prairie View quickly took control of the game with an astounding 15 runs after two innings. After a scoreless third inning, Texas College scored its first run of the game with a RBI double by Elizabeth Marroquin but the Lady Panthers answered in the bottom frame with a run.

Freshman pitcher Analisa Gonzales (1-8) stymied the Lady Steer lineup with a three-hit, nine strikeout performance. Sierra Saenz (1-3) was credited with the loss for the Lady Steers. Offensively, Holcombe led the Lady Panther offense with four hits, three RBIs and two runs scored.

The Lady Panthers will have a week off before hitting the road to resume conference play on Friday, March 31 against the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

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The medical corner:

Giving the gift of life can make a difference



By Nichole Liggins,
and Dennis E. Daniels,
M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Medical Correspondent

Currently there are 91,626 Americans on a waiting list to receive donated organs and or tissues which include: bones, bone marrow, corneas, eyes, veins, hearts, intestines, kidneys, livers, lungs, pancreases, skin, blood, plasma, and tendons. Some individuals have been on this list for hours while others have been on for years. Not to mention, many will die while waiting on this list. This is why it is important for individuals of different ethnicities, (especially minorities) to make the important decision to become an organ/tissue donor.

People are in need of an organ or tissue transplants

for many different reasons. Some are born with congenital defects, while others incur injuries to the particular organ/tissue over time. There are also individuals who have survived or suffer from various types of cancer or other major illnesses which have left parts of their body unable to fulfill the functions necessary for survival. For example, a person with kidney disease relies on a dialysis machine for survival until a donor kidney is available.

There are many myths that surround organ donation. Could it be that perhaps these myths lead to the low occurrence of individuals willing to give the gift of life? It is important to realize that making the decision to donate your organs does not cause any type of mutilation to your body, have an age limit (although minors need parental/guardian consent), or cost anything to the donor.

In addition to that, organ donors reserve all rights to choose which organs or tissues they want to make available for donation. (An individual can also choose to donate their organs/body to science to be used for research and teaching

purposes). Once someone decides to become an organ donor it is his/her responsibility to notify someone of their wishes. This can be done by talking with a family member, someone you trust, or simply signing a donor registration card. Many states offer the opportunity to sign a donor card while applying for a license or identification card and often give you some type of notification to carry on your person.

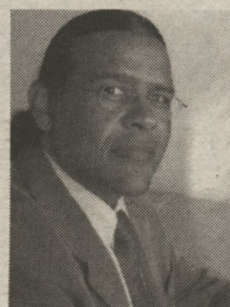
The extensive demand and the inadequate supply of organs and tissues available for donation is a startling fact. Although many people need the benefits, not many are willing to make the sacrifice. Thousands of mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, etc. are currently on a waiting list to receive organs. It is also sad to say that many are added daily.

There is no greater gift a person can either give or receive than the gift of life. Remember, making the decision to become an organ/tissue donor can be one of the most important decisions of your life. For more information contact www.organdonor.gov or www.shareyourlife.org, and www.cdc.gov.

LIFESTYLES & HEALTH

EDITED BY LACHRYL E. WHITLOW LWHITLOW@PVAMU.EDU

From a mental perspective:
Bearded tits: murder, environment,
and how it relates to health



By Dr. Victor Pendelton
Faculty Contributor

A European zoo wanted to add a small rare bird called the bearded tit to its collection. Zoo officials studied the tit's natural environment and behavior, and constructed a habitat for the birds. They carefully attended to the food, shrubbery, temperature, nesting materials, and lighting.

After constructing the habitat, the zoo placed a male and a female tit there. The tits seemed quite happy in the environment. They sang, flew about, constructed a nest, laid eggs, and the eggs hatched. It seemed that the zoo had done a super job of providing the bearded tits with the perfect environment in which to thrive.

Then something very strange happened. After a few days, zoo keepers found the baby tits on the ground, dead. New chicks met the same fate and the zoo keepers soon realized that the adults were pushing the chicks out of the nest onto the ground, killing them. Why would these creatures kill their babies? Were they evil?

Desperate for answers, zoo officials returned to the bearded tit's natural environment. They compared the behavior of the zoo's tits to the behavior of bearded tits in the wild. They identified three patterns of behavior in the wild tits that seemed relevant.

First, adult tits in the wild spent most of their time searching for food and bringing it back to the chicks. Second, the wild chicks were always hungry and whenever the adults returned to the nest they were greeted by the chirps and open mouths of the chicks. Third, the adults removed all inanimate objects from the nest: old pieces of shell, uneaten food, everything that didn't move was thrown out.

In contrast, the zoo chicks slept during the day because the adults brought them food in abundance and they were full. Based on their observations, zoo keepers modified the habitat to reduce the supply of food and make it harder for the adults to find it. As a result, the chicks ate less, stayed awake during the day begging for food, and were not thrown out of the nest by their parents.

This story holds some valuable lessons for us in regard to our current environment and our health. First, we are in balance with our environment in ways we may not understand. Second, more is not necessarily better: What appears good (or bad) on the surface may have unexpected negative (or positive) effects.

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Lifestyles or
Health?

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panther@pvamu.edu

Why I can't be single

Have you ever wondered why she always gotta have a man?

Jemma Hepburn
Panther Staff

Most of us have a backup plan for almost anything life throws at us, don't we? Getting an F on midterm exam is no doubt a hard blow, but you figure it can easily be fixed with a little more studying before finals roll around. Likewise losing a cell phone can definitely put a damper on your day and make you really feel lost but, hopefully, with the help of that good ol' insurance plan or a warranty you're pretty much over it in a matter of days...that is when the new phone arrives. But for some of us, being single is something

that we just can't fathom or deal with. It is simply, just not an option.

It's a given that God did design human beings with the desire to feel they belong, want affection and love, but is it truly healthy to be dependent on that desire? Being single may seem trivial as compared to children starving in Third World countries or people dying from cancer. However, the reality of it is that more people spend time on dating Web sites, hotlines, escort services, and love psychics than they do on giving money to organizations for the greater good.

These people, (usually females), constantly feel

like their playing cards must always be "full," so to speak. The thought of being alone scares them, and they feel depressed or even restless if no one is there to desire them or show them some form of affection, no matter how little it is. In your circle of friends, you may know this person as "the flirt" or the girl who goes from guy to guy to friend to brother etc.

So then the question is why are some people like this? You've probably already guessed that it may come from insecurity. They may appear to have sky-high confidence, but the truth is that they need to have the warmth of another individual by their side.

They may be dependent may have always had the comfort of another throughout most of their life, yet has never had to be on their own emotionally. Jerrell Blackshire, a human performance junior, agreed and said, "Because some people are so accustomed to having a boyfriend or girlfriend they don't know what to do when they're single." With that in mind, let's not forget there is the idea that they just want a "collection" of partners. Although it sounds crazy, some people take pride in a loaded "little black book" or "chick-tionary."

Perhaps it could simply be that they are a major flirt and like to flirt with men or women

whom they don't necessarily have a romantic interest in. You could almost say they do it just for the hell of it! However, the joke's eventually on them, because this only shows just how much they need the comfort of feeling desired to increase their self-esteem.

Whatever the reason may be, it is certain that this style of dating is not healthy because it does not allow you to stand on your own two feet mentally. The remedy: Take a break! Constantly looking for "the one," is probably the reason why you've not found that special person yet. Why don't you take time out to get to know you.



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

The Ladies of BLDG #37 were the
Winners of the Dorm Step-Off!!

You must have a grade of 'C' or better in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for the summer/fall. Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick THEA testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UC ACADEMIC SUPERSTARS-PLATINUM

Ryan Andrews, Sirmichael Jones, Joshua Colby, David Tatum, Kamal Woodyard, Michael Edgecombe, Jeremy Williams, Ryan Ellis, James Briers, Dedrick Dalcour, Justin Higdon-Key, William McCowan, Wesley Patterson, Adobi Onyejiaka, Bridgett Sweeny, Ashley Ward, Charli Cooksey, Aaron Jacobs, Abbey Potterf, Sharmekia Elliott, Ashley Henderson, Erica Nelson, Renalda Reed, Jessica Roberts

UC wishes to acknowledge BLDG #41's Melanie Brown and Charli Cooksey —key members of the PVAMU Tennis Team!!!

BLDGs #35 & 41 hosted A Suicide Prevention Seminar presented by Dr. Shawanda Anderson, Dr. Paula Moore, Dr. Derek Wilson, Dr. Ronald Briggs and the Cypress Creek Hospital staff.

BE SAFE, BE SMART, PLAY BY ALL THE RULES!!



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Brandy Marie Byers
Miss Prairie View A&M University 2005-2006

1st Runner-up, Miss SWAC
in the
2nd Annual Miss Southwestern Athletic Conference
Scholarship Pageant
Birmingham, Alabama

Freshman step off shocks many

Students had a lot to say about the show of the year

By Anterria Brown
Panther Staff

The annual dormstep off was held Wednesday, March 22.

The highly anticipated event drew a full crowd of spectators to the Baby Dome all anxious to see which buildings would walk away victorious. In addition to their week of events, the show was sponsored by the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

The step off featured the step teams of various buildings throughout the University College. The participants in the dorm step off included the ladies of buildings 35, 39, 41, 42, 44, 40, 39 and the gentlemen of C Phi C, 33, and 36.

Each act in the step show was allotted a certain amount of

time to showcase their routines. Every act was unique and had its own theme. The creative show themes varied from video games, a postal service, and even a prison theme.

Prairie View's own D.J. Mr. Rogers served as the D.J. for the event, and he kept the crowd well entertained during show and intermissions.

"I really enjoyed the dorm step off. Each building brought something different, and it was obvious that they had all worked very hard on their acts," said senior Aayrin Collins.

As the show concluded, the moment came that everyone had been anticipating... the announcement of winners. Contestants were then divided into two separate categories of males and females.

The winners in the female category were in first place building 37, second place building 39, and in third place building 42.

In the male category the winners were in first place C Phi C, in second place building 36, and in third place building 38.

Each of the winners of the step show received a \$200 cash prize and free admission into the stepshow after party.

Kaylan Colbert of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority said, "The step show was a success, and it was very exciting. It was a great way for the freshmen in the U.C. to display their skills. We worked very hard putting the show together and we were elated with the outcome. Congratulations to the winners and all the groups that performed."



Photo By: Evan White



Choice Awards

Attention!! Attention!!

Presenter and Nominees there will be a meeting on April 5, 2006 at 5:30pm
March 29, 2006 thru April 7, 2006

Friday ALL Nominees need to take a Picture come to Rm 219 in the MSC

Upcoming Dates:

April 4-5, 2006

Rm 203 of the MSC @7p.m. PV Idols tryouts for Host/Hostees and talent for award show!!

April 24, 2006

Monday will be PV Choice Award @ 6:30pm

Pre-show/Red Carpet starts @ 5:00pm

Location: MSC Auditorium

Post-show starts after the award show

Location: Ballroom

Attire: Formal (like Emmys or Academy Awards)

April 23, 2006

Sunday will be Rehearsal @4:00pm

April 17, 2006 Monday thru April 21, 2006 Ticket will be Free but you have to pick them up in the SGA office Rm 223 and bring your School I.D. to get a ticket. First come first served because ticket are limited, so get your ticket early!!!

Events for March 30-April 5

Thursday, 3/30

SPRING FEST
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Alumni Field

Special Programs
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
MSC-204

Friday, 3/31

SPRING FEST
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.
W.J. Nicks

Saturday, 4/1

April 1
SPRING FEST
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday, 4/2

Phi Beta Sigma
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
MSC-111

Monday, 4/3

Withdraw from course(s)
with record "W"
Ends

Now Accepting Appli-
cations for Summer
and Fall 2006 Gradu-
ation

CAB
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
New Science Building-
A104

Blackstone Pre-Law
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
GWF-109

Phi Beta Sigma
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
MSC-204

Student Activities
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
MSC-111

Gamma Sigma Sigma
6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
New Science Building-
103

BSM
6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Chapel

Tuesday, 4/4

Recruitment
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
MSC-204

Health Development
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
MSC-204

Criminal Justice Club
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
GW-110

SIFE
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
New Science Building
103

Beta Beta Beta
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
New Science Building
A103

Student Activities
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
MSC-111

NAACP
5:15 p.m. - 7 p.m.
W.R.Banks-242

African Student Assoc
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
W.R. Banks-209

Alpha Kappa Alpha
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
New Science Building-
A101

Gamma Phi Delta
6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Chapel

Karnation Kourt
6:45 p.m. - 9 p.m.
New Science Build-
ing-101

Church of Christ
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
WFD-328

Zeta Phi Beta
7:05 p.m. - 9 p.m.
W.R. Banks-204

Wednesday, 4/5

Phi Beta Sigma
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.
MSC-111

CAB
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
MSC

Institutional Research
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
MSC-204

University Symphonic
Band
3 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Hobart

NSBE
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
C.L.Wilson-103

BSM
6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
New Science Building-
A101

Sigma Gamma Rho
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
W.R.Banks-205

FOCCS
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Chapel



Panther Poetry Lounge

Sleep On

By Pamela Kibbles

Antwan sleep on, sleep on
The time has come for you to rest
You know that I love you
But Jesus loves you best
We've shared many joys and sorrows
Thru the years past
But that is all behind us now
And you're home at last
My life is so different now
It will never be the same
You heard the voice and answered
when the Master called your name.
I will someday know the path you took
And I will take the same,
Walk slowly down the road Antwan
And you will hear me call your name
So rest in peace dear friend
For God alone doth reign.
I'll go on with loving memories
Until the Master calls my name.



1. Why did Alpha Phi Omega have the best probate show? 2. Now that they made their mark how many males are going to join and drop the process once they see Alpha Phi Omega pledges old school? 3. Who was the tail in SAI that didn't go to set or step practice? 4. Didn't she look like J.J from *Good Times*? 5. Why didn't she just stay under the black lace? 6. Who is scared Gamma Sigma Sigma is going to run the yard? 7. Since they are more attractive why don't they join the divine nine and take the Zetas' place? 8. Are the Omegas and Sigmas really in a race to see who can pledge the lamest guys on campus? 9. Was the Kappas' loan from those "white boys" subsidized or unsubsidized? 10. What faculty member really needed her make-over at the Ebony spa? 11. Did she remember to take a sample bag? 12. How long will that look last before she needs more fashion fair? 13. Who really thought the Deltas and Alphas were going to probate? 14. If Sigmas pledge Phi Beta because the Omega pledge process was too difficult does Phi Mu Alpha do the same thing because they can't pledge KKPsi? 15. Who is the girl dating a maintenance man in Phase II? 16. Didn't her mama teach her not to make friends with the hired help? 17. Why don't people start boycotting the Village newspaper *Purple Reign*? 18. Is the big boy committee the new SGA? 19. Since they are so clique tight when is PALS going to probate? 20. What do you think?

This is for **entertainment only**. The questions submitted are not the views of **The Panther**. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail us at panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of **The Panther**.

E-mail The Panther



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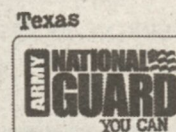
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PROMOTING HEALTHY DECISIONS

The TRUTH about Hepatitis B

Are you at risk?

ABCs of Hepatitis B

Transmission: Contact with contaminated blood or body fluids via sex, tattoo or piercing needles, intravenous drug use or sharing personal care items.

Symptoms: Fever, joint pain, generalized aches and pains, fatigue, nausea and vomiting, pain in the abdomen and jaundice, although about one-third of people with hepatitis B show no symptoms.

Effects: Usually clears up within six months, but some people develop a chronic infection that can result in scarring of the liver or liver cancer.

Treatment: There is no cure for chronic hepatitis B, but there are medications that can help you stay well longer.

Prevention: The best way to protect yourself from infection is by vaccination.

*15,000 cases of
Hepatitis B among
college age students.*

*Half of the reported
cases of Hepatitis B are
among individuals who
engage in high risk
sexual activity.*